

Message Text

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ORIGIN ERDA-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI, ENRG, PL

SUBJECT: ERDA/SFCP: US-POLISH COOPERATION IN COAL RESEARCH

REFS: A) WARSAW 7463; B) WARSAW A-407, NOVEMBER 21, 1975

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED THE THREE PROPOSED RESEARCH CONTRACTS
ACCOMPANYING REF (B). FOR YOUR INFORMATION, WE ARE
PLEASED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING BUDGET LANGUAGE USED BY
ERDA, AGAINST WHICH THE PROPOSALS MUST BE EVALUATED:

QUOTE THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY WILL BE ABLE TO COM-
BINE THE EFFORTS OF BOTH THE INSTITUTE OF CARBOCHEMISTRY
AT WYR AND THE MINISTERIAL INSTITUTE OF ZABREZE TO CON-
DUCT AN INTENSIVE STUDY IN EXTRACTION OF COAL, WITH
AND WITHOUT HYDROGEN ADDITION, TO YIELD HIGH QUALITY
SYNTHETIC FUELS. ALTERNATE SYSTEMS WILL BE TESTED AND
EVALUATED. AT THE FORMER INSTITUTE, CONSIDERABLE EFFORT
IS BEING MADE TO ENHANCE THE FACILITIES AND CAPABILITIES.
A NEW LABORATORY AT WYR TO ACCOMMODATE OVER 200 WORKERS
IS NEARING COMPLETION, AS WELL AS A PILOT PLANT ABLE TO
HANDLE ONE TON PER DAY FOR VARIED COAL CONVERSION

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PROCESSES.

QUOTE THE SOLIDS LEAVING THE COAL SEPARATION SYSTEM WILL

BE FURTHER PROCESSED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE INSTITUTE OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, INCLUDING LOW TEMPERATURE CARBONIZATION WITH COMBUSTION OF THE RESULTING CHAR IN A FLUIDIZED-BED BOILER. LIQUID MATERIAL LEAVING THE SEPARATION STEP WILL BE HYDROGENATED IN BOTH A FIXED AND EBULLATED BED UNDER VARYING CONDITIONS OF TEMPERATURE AND PRESSURE.

QUOTE AS THE WORK PROCEEDS, A PLANT CONCEPT WILL BE ESTABLISHED AND PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING WILL BE COMPLETED TO DETERMINE PROJECTED PLANT OPERATING AND PRODUCT COSTS. ALTERNATE PLANT CONCEPTS WILL BE STUDIED AND EVALUATED. THIS WORK WILL REQUIRE A MINIMUM OF THREE YEARS. UNQUOTE

2. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMUNICATING THE ABOVE AND WHAT FOLLOWS BELOW TO THE POLISH GROUP PRIOR TO OUR ARRIVAL FOR NEGOTIATIONS:

(A) THE POLISH PROPOSAL IS THE BASIS FOR OUR NEGOTIATIONS AND WE BELIEVE WE CAN COME TO SOME AGREEMENT ON THE NATURE OF THE WORK WE WILL UNDERTAKE.

(B) GENERAL COMMENT: WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE PROPOSED WORK AND THEIR ONE TON PER DAY COAL LIQUEFACTION PILOT PLANT.

(C) WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSAL NO. 1, I HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

PROCESSING OF COAL EXTRACTS IN THE PROPOSED FIXED-BED REACTORS WILL DEPEND ON EFFECTIVE SOLIDS REMOVAL TO SEPARATE THE FOULING EFFECT OF PARTICULATES FROM THE DEACTIVATION EFFECTS OF CARBON LAY DOWN AND ADSORPTION OF BASIC NITROGEN COMPOUNDS ON ACIDIC SITES. SOME OF THE EXPERIMENTAL EFFORT SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO DETERMINING THE EFFICIENCY OF REMOVAL OF ORGANIC NITROGEN FROM THE FEEDSTOCKS.

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(D) WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSAL NO. 2, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOME OF THE EXPERIMENTAL EFFORT DEVOTED TO SOLVENT DEASHING. OUR STUDIES INDICATE THIS IS MORE PROMISING BASED ON SCALE-UP POTENTIAL AND OPERATING COSTS THAN FILTRATION, CENTRIFUGATION OR HYDROCLONING. SUPPLYING RAW COAL EXTRACTS FROM THE USA IS NOT TOO PRACTICAL. SAMPLES WHICH HAVE BEEN COOLED DOWN TO ROOM TEMPERATURE AND REHEATED AFTER SOME TIME MAY NOT BE REPRESENTATIVE

OF FRESH FEEDS. THE AMOUNTS OF MATERIAL REQUIRED FOR STUDIES WITH HYDROCLONES COULD NOT BE SUPPLIED FROM THE USA.

(E) PROPOSAL NO. 3 DOES NOT SEEM TO REALLY FIT WITHIN OUR APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE. IN ADDITION, ERDA IS NOT PRIVY TO THE DETAILED RESULTS ON THE PRODUCTION OF ELECTRODE CARBON FROM COAL EXTRACTS AVAILABLE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE USA AND COULD NOT SUPPLY THIS INFORMATION. THIS, HOWEVER, WOULD NOT PREVENT POLISH RESEARCHERS FROM VISITING THESE PRIVATE SECTOR PLANTS AS PART OF THIS AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, WE COULD NOT GUARANTEE WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO OBTAIN. ROBINSON

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